

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1497–S1553

Measures Introduced: Nineteen bills and five resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 573–591, and S. Res. 80–84. **Pages S1539–40**

Measures Passed:

Authorizing Expenditures by Committees of the Senate: Senate agreed to S. Res. 70, authorizing expenditures by committees of the Senate for the periods March 1, 2019 through September 30, 2019, October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020, and October 1, 2020 through February 28, 2021.

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Enrollment Correction: Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 21, directing the Secretary of the Senate to make a correction in the enrollment of the bill S. 47.

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University of Nebraska-Lincoln 150th Anniversary: Senate agreed to S. Res. 82, recognizing the 150th anniversary of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

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American Heart Month and National Wear Red Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 83, designating February 2019 as “American Heart Month” and February 1, 2019, as “National Wear Red Day”.

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Black History Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 84, celebrating Black History Month.

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Wheeler Nomination—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Andrew Wheeler, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

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During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 52 yeas to 46 nays (Vote No. EX. 32), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination.

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A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding the provisions of Rule XXII, all post-cloture time on the nomination of Andrew Wheeler be considered expired at 12:30 p.m., on Thursday, February 28, 2019; with the

time between 12 noon and 12:30 p.m., equally divided in the usual form; that the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of John L. Ryder, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority, be withdrawn, and that following disposition of the nomination of Andrew Wheeler, Senate resume consideration of the nomination of John L. Ryder, with the time until 1:45 p.m., equally divided between the two Leaders, or their designees, and that at 1:45 p.m., Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination of John L. Ryder, with no intervening action or debate.

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A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination, post-cloture, at approximately 10 a.m., on Thursday, February 28, 2019.

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Steff Nomination—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the nomination of Ian Paul Steff, of Indiana, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Director General of the United States and Foreign Commercial Service, be referred jointly to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs and the Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation.

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Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 83 yeas to 15 nays (Vote No. EX. 31), Michael J. Desmond, of California, to be Chief Counsel for the Internal Revenue Service and an Assistant General Counsel in the Department of the Treasury.

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Messages from the House: **Page S1538**

Measures Referred: **Page S1538**

Executive Communications: **Pages S1538–39**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S1539**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S1540–41**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S1541–45**

Additional Statements: **Page S1538**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Pages S1545–46**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S1546**

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—32) **Pages S1509–10**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Thursday, February 28, 2019. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1546.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

DOD CYBER OPERATIONS

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Cybersecurity received a closed briefing on Department of Defense cyber operations from B. Edwin Wilson, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Cyber Policy, Office of the Under Secretary for Policy, Rear Admiral William E. Chase, III, USN, Deputy Director, Command, Control, Communications, and Computers/Cyber, Joint Staff, J–6, and Captain Scott Asack, USN, Acting Deputy Director, Global Operations, Joint Staff, J–39, all of the Department of Defense.

MILITARY FAMILY READINESS OVERSIGHT

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Personnel concluded an oversight hearing to examine military personnel policies and military family readiness, after receiving testimony from Lieutenant General Thomas C. Seamands, USA, Deputy Chief of Staff, G–1, Vice Admiral Robert P. Burke, USN, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations, N–1, Lieutenant General Brian T. Kelly, USAF, Deputy Chief of Staff for Manpower, Personnel and Services, Lieutenant General Michael A. Rocco, USMC, Deputy Commandant for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, Sergeant Major Daniel A. Dailey, USA, Sergeant Major of the Army, Master Chief Petty Officer Russell L. Smith, USN, Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy, Chief Master Sergeant Kaleth O. Wright, USAF, Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, and Sergeant Major Ronald L. Green, USMC, Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps, all of the Department of Defense.

BUDGET CONTROL ACT

Committee on the Budget: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Budget Control Act, focusing on a review of cap-adjusted spending, after receiving testimony from Theresa Gullo, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis, Congressional Budget Office.

Also, committee adopted its rules of procedure for the 116th Congress.

FEDERAL DATA PRIVACY FRAMEWORK

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine policy

principles for a Federal data privacy framework in the United States, after receiving testimony from Jon Leibowitz, 21st Century Privacy Coalition, Michael Beckerman, Internet Association, Brian A. Dodge, Retail Industry Leaders Association, and Victoria Espinel, BSA—The Software Alliance, all of Washington, D.C.; Randall Rothenberg, Interactive Advertising Bureau, New York, New York; and Woodrow Hartzog, Northeastern University School of Law and Khoury College of Computer Sciences, Boston, Massachusetts.

UTILIZING SIGNIFICANT EMISSIONS WITH INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES ACT

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 383, to support carbon dioxide utilization and direct air capture research, to facilitate the permitting and development of carbon capture, utilization, and sequestration projects and carbon dioxide pipelines, after receiving testimony from Paul Sukut, Basin Electric Power Cooperative, Bismarck, North Dakota; Steve Oldham, Carbon Engineering, Squamish, Canada; and Kurt Waltzer, Clean Air Task Force, Boston, Massachusetts.

U.S. ROLE IN THE WORLD

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine assessing the role of the United States in the world, after receiving testimony from Stephen J. Hadley, former National Security Advisor, and William J. Burns, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, both of Washington, D.C.

PROTECTING THE ELECTRIC GRID

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine protecting the electric grid from an electromagnetic pulse or geomagnetic disturbance, after receiving testimony from Karen S. Evans, Assistant Secretary of Energy, Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response; Brian Harrell, Assistant Director for Infrastructure Security, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, Department of Homeland Security; Nathan Anderson, Acting Director, Government Accountability Office; Joseph McClelland, Director, Office of Energy Infrastructure Security, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission; Scott I. Aaronson, Edison Electric Institute, and Randy Horton, Electric Power Research Institute, both of Washington, D.C.; David W. Roop, Dominion Energy, Richmond, Virginia; Jim Vespalec, American Transmission Company, Waukesha, Wisconsin; George H. Baker, Foundation for Resilient Societies, Dayton, Virginia; Justin Kasper, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor; and Caitlin Durkovich, Toffer Associates, Arlington, Virginia.